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June 7, 2002

TO: SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY, CHAIRMAN
SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA
SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
SUPERVISOR DON KNABE
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

FROM: P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

COPPER FIRE - THIRD UPDATE

To date, the Copper Fire in the Saugus area has consumed 23,000 acres, including 7 structures and 10 outbuildings. Over 2,000 personnel are currently committed to this fire under the unified command of the Los Angeles County Fire Department and the U.S. Forest Service with assistance being provided from fire agencies throughout the Southern California area.

The Town of Green Valley is in the path of the fire and the conditions remain very dangerous. Strong 18 to 20 MPH winds blowing from the southwest, low humidity, and temperatures in the 90s today continue to hamper firefighting efforts.

At this time, a voluntary evacuation of the residents in the Lake Hughes area is taking place, and the Red Cross has set up shelters at Saugus High School and Palmdale High School.

Six fire fighters suffered minor injuries. The fire is 5% contained and the cause of the fire has been determined to be accidental due to a welding/grinding operation at a construction site.

If you have any questions, please call me.

PMF:dkj

c: David Janssen
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